

Appl. No. 10/797,157
Amdt. dated April 24, 2006

Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of modulating tumor growth comprising contacting a tumor cell with an effective amount of an ~~agonist or~~ antagonist of IL-23.
2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the antagonist of IL-23 inhibits or prevents tumor growth.
3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the tumor cell expresses IL-23.
4. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the ~~agonist or~~ antagonist of IL-23 comprises a binding composition that specifically binds a polypeptide ~~or nucleic acid of p19 (SEQ ID NOs: 2 or 4). [[:]]~~
 - a) ~~p19 (SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, or 4); or~~
 - ~~b) IL-23R (SEQ ID NOs: 5 or 6).~~
5. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 4, wherein the binding composition comprises an antigen-binding site of an antibody. [[:]]
 - a) ~~an antigen-binding site of an antibody;~~
 - b) ~~an extracellular region of IL-23R (SEQ ID NOs: 5 or 6);~~
 - c) ~~a small molecule;~~
 - d) ~~an anti-sense nucleic acid or small interference RNA (siRNA); or~~
 - e) ~~a detectable label.~~
6. (Original) The method of Claim 4, wherein the binding composition comprises:
 - a) a polyclonal antibody;
 - b) a monoclonal antibody;
 - c) a humanized antibody, or a fragment thereof;

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- d) an Fab, Fv, or F(ab')₂ fragment; or
 - e) a peptide mimetic of an antibody.
7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the tumor cell is:
- a) a colon cancer cell;
 - b) an ovarian cancer cell;
 - c) a breast cancer cell; or
 - d) a melanoma cell.
8. (Currently amended) A method of treating a subject suffering from a cancer or tumor comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of an agonist or antagonist of IL-23.
9. (Original) The method of Claim 8, wherein the antagonist of IL-23 inhibits:
- a) growth of the cancer or tumor;
 - b) cachexia;
 - c) anorexia; or
 - d) angiogenesis.
10. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 8, wherein the antagonist of IL-23 comprises a binding composition that specifically binds a polypeptide or nucleic acid of p19 (SEQ ID NOs: 2 or 4). [[:]]
- a) ~~p19 (SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, or 4); or~~
 - ~~b) IL-23R (SEQ ID NOs: 5 or 6).~~
11. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein the binding composition comprises an antigen-binding site of an antibody. [[:]]
- a) ~~an antigen-binding site of an antibody;~~
 - b) ~~an extracellular region of IL-23R (SEQ ID NOs: 5 or 6);~~
 - c) ~~an anti-sense nucleic acid or small interference RNA (siRNA);~~
 - d) ~~a small molecule; or~~
 - e) ~~a detectable label.~~

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12. (Original) The method of Claim 10, wherein the binding composition comprises:
- a) a polyclonal antibody;
 - b) a monoclonal antibody;
 - c) a humanized antibody, or a fragment thereof;
 - d) an Fab, Fv, or F(ab')₂ fragment; or
 - e) a peptide mimetic of an antibody.
13. (Original) The method of Claim 8, wherein the cancer or tumor is of the:
- a) gastrointestinal tract;
 - b) respiratory tract;
 - c) reproductive system; or
 - d) endocrine system.
14. (Original) The method of Claim 8, wherein the cancer or tumor is:
- a) colon cancer;
 - b) ovarian cancer;
 - c) a melanoma; or
 - d) breast cancer.
- 15 - 18. (Canceled)